

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-09 NEA-10 ISO-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 CEQ-01
ERDA-07 COME-00 EPA-04 IO-13 NSF-02 OES-06 INT-05
FEA-01 CG-00 SIG-02 OIC-02 DOTE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 FMC-02 DLOS-09 /160 R

DRAFTED BY EB/TCA/MA:CTAYLOR,JR.:BST
APPROVED BY EB/TCA/MA:CTAYLOR,JR.
L/EB:JRCROOK; ARA/ECP:MSLUCY
OES/ENP/EN:GKINTER
USCG:DCHINTZE
IO/TRC:WDIAMANTI
OES/OFA/OCA:GDALTON
EA/RA:LMCNUTT
NEA/RA:DMORAN
EUR/RPE:ADSSENS

-----122326Z 044583 /63

O 122239Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE
UNCLASSIFIED

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, IMCO

SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATION INITIATIVE ON MARINE OIL
POLLUTION

REF: STATE 66771

1. FOLLOWING ARE TEXTS OF TWO PAPERS WHICH U.S. DELEGATION WILL PRESENT FOR CONSIDERATION BY MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE (MSC) OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION (IMCO) DURING ITS APRIL 18-22 MEETING. ADDRESSEE POSTS REQUESTED TO TRANSMIT TEXTS TO APPROPRIATE HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ASAP SO THAT MEMBERS OF HOST GOVERNMENT DELEGATION TO MSC MAY CONSIDER THEM BEFORE DEPARTURE FOR APRIL 18-22 MEETING.

TEXT - FIRST PAPER - NOTE BY THE UNITED STATES - TANKER SAFETY

QUOTE DURING RECENT MONTHS, TANKER INCIDENTS HAVE OCCURRED IN U.S. PORTS AND IN AND AROUND THE WATERS OF THE U.S. AT AN ALARMING FREQUENCY. THE FOLLOWING IS A LISTING OF A NUMBER OF THESE INCIDENTS WHICH ILLUSTRATE THE GENERAL SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM AND CERTAINLY DICTATE THAT MORE MUST BE DONE IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR THE SAFETY OF TANKERS AND THEIR PERSONNEL AS WELL AS FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT.

15 DECEMBER 1976 -- ARGO MERCHANT -- GROUNDING AND SUBSEQUENT LOSS OF SHIP AND CARGO.

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NORTH PACIFIC -- SANK AT SEA -- LOSS OF CARGO AND ONE LIFE.

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FAILURE IN U.S. WATERWAY -- STRUCK BRIDGE.

22 MARCH 1977 -- ATREUS -- GROUNDING IN U.S. WATERWAY
WITHOUT CARGO LOSS.

27 MARCH 1977 -- CLAUDE CONWAY -- EXPLOSION IN NORTH
ATLANTIC -- VESSEL SANK WITH LOSS OF 12 LIVES.

ON 18 MARCH 1977, PRESIDENT CARTER FORWARDED THE FOLLOWING
MESSAGE TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES. (INSERT
PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE.)

THE PROBLEMS OF POLLUTION OF THE OCEANS FROM TANKER
ACCIDENTS AND OPERATIONAL DISCHARGES HAVE LONG BEEN
ADDRESSED BY IMCO IN CONJUNCTION WITH ITS CONTINUOUS
APPRAISAL OF TANK VESSEL SAFETY. IMCO'S MORE RECENT WORK
HAS LED TO A STRENGTHENING OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION OF THE SEAS BY OIL, 1954,
THE ELABORATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE
PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS, 1973, AND THE DEVELOP-
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PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE DETAILS U.S. SUGGESTIONS FOR
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PROPOSED ACTION BY MSC:

1. THAT THE MSC BEGIN CONSIDERATION OF THE U.S. PROPOSALS

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DEALING WITH INERT GAS SYSTEMS, BACK-UP RADAR WITH COLLISION AVOIDANCE EQUIPMENT, AND IMPROVED EMERGENCY STEERING STANDARDS. (NOTE: AT THE FORTHCOMING MEPC SESSION, THE U.S. WILL FORMALLY PROPOSE THAT THE MEPC DEAL WITH THE PROPOSAL FOR DOUBLE BOTTOMS AND SEGREGATED BALLAST.)

2. THAT THE MSC CONSIDER METHODS OF IMPROVING THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF TANKER INSPECTIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS. (SEE PAPER MSC XXXVI/ FOR U.S. SUGGESTION.)

3. THAT A SPECIAL PREPARATORY CONFERENCE CONSISTING OF A JOINT SESSION OF MSC/MEPC BE HELD THIS AUTUMN TO FURTHER CONSIDER THE U.S. PROPOSAL AND PREPARE THE NECESSARY DRAFT INSTRUMENTS AS APPROPRIATE. (NOTE: THE U.S. WILL PROPOSE DURING THE FORTHCOMING COUNCIL SESSION THAT A SPECIAL PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE BE CONVENED TO CONSIDER THE PREPARATORY WORK AND TAKE ACTION AS APPROPRIATE.)

4. SPECIFICALLY, THE U.S. SUGGESTS THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

A. SPECIAL PREPARATORY CONFERENCE - 5-16 SEPTEMBER 1977

B. PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE - 5-16 DECEMBER 1977

5. THAT MSC RECOMMEND THAT THE 1978 CONFERENCE ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING BE HELD EARLY IN 1978 AND THAT THE TENTH SESSION OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRAINING AND WATCHKEEPING BE RESCHEDULED TO AN EARLIER DATE ACCORDINGLY.

TEXT SECOND PAPER - NOTE BY THE UNITED STATES - TANKER INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION.

QUOTE DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS, THE MSC HAS CONCENTRATED UNCLASSIFIED

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ON THE PROBLEM OF SUBSTANDARD SHIPS. EXCELLENT APPRAISAL GUIDELINES HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED FOR DEALING WITH THESE SHIPS BUT THEIR FULL EFFECT HAS YET TO BE FELT. THE U.S. ENDORSES THE COMMITTEE'S PLANS FOR CONTINUING TO WORK ON THIS PROBLEM.

AS IS DESCRIBED IN SLS.9/CIRC.4, THE U.S. COAST GUARD, EARLY IN 1977, GAVE ADDITIONAL EMPHASIS TO ITS CONTINUING PROGRAM OF BOARDING AND EXAMINING TANKERS IN U.S. PORTS. THE EXPANDED PROGRAM, WHICH IS EQUALLY APPLICABLE TO U.S. TANKERS AND FOREIGN FLAG TANKERS IN U.S. PORTS, WAS BEGUN FOLLOWING A SERIOUS TANKER EXPLOSION IN A U.S. PORT AND PARTICULARLY BECAUSE OF THE APPARENT LACK OF CLOSE

SCRUTINY BEING GIVEN TO TANKER CARGO, PIPING, PUMPING, AND VENTING SYSTEMS DURING THEIR PRIOR SURVEY. THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THE RESULTS OF THIS EXPANDED PROGRAM DURING THE PERIOD 21 JANUARY - 25 MARCH 1977.

NUMBER OF VESSELS EXAMINED.....603
NUMBER OF VESSELS WITH DEFICIENCIES.....325
TOTAL NUMBER OF DEFICIENCIES FOUND.....1395

TYPES AND NUMBERS OF DEFICIENCIES FOUND:

CARGO VENTING SYSTEM567
PUMP ROOM.....253
CARGO PIPING SYSTEM.....199
ELECTRICAL SYSTEM.....110
FIRE PROTECTION.....106
CARGO HANDLING EQUIPMENT..... 68
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PERSONNEL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT..... 24
SHIPS' VENTILATION SYSTEM..... 24
TOTAL.....1395

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PERMANENT) ARE COMPLETED OR SOME ALTERNATIVE MEASURE IS TAKEN. TANKERS WHICH MAKE TEMPORARY REPAIRS ARE BEING REQUIRED TO MAKE PERMANENT REPAIRS ON A TIMELY BASIS. A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF THE DEFICIENCIES FOUND HAVE BEEN OF THE TYPE THAT WILL PERMIT TEMPORARY REPAIRS FOR CORRECTION.

SEVERAL VESSELS HAVE BEEN FOUND TO HAVE SUBSTANTIAL DEFICIENCIES WHICH BROUGHT THEIR SEAWORTHINESS INTO QUESTION. THESE VESSELS HAVE BEEN DETAINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATION 19 OF SOLAS. SUBSEQUENT TO ONE INTERVENTION, THE VESSEL WAS REMOVED FROM SERVICE AND SCRAPPED. THESE INTERVENTIONS ARE BEING REPORTED TO IMCO IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AGREED PROCEDURE.

UPON EXAMINATION OF THE RESULTS OF THE BOARDINGS CONDUCTED TO DATE, IT IS APPARENT THAT TODAY'S SYSTEM OF INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION FOR SOLAS COMPLIANCE REQUIRES IMPROVEMENT. A LARGE NUMBER OF THE REQUIRED SURVEYS ARE BEING CONDUCTED BY THIRD PARTIES REPRESENTING FLAG STATE ADMINISTRATIONS AS IS PERMITTED BY THE CONVENTION, YET THERE APPEARS TO BE NO DIRECT LINK BETWEEN THE SURVEYORS AND THE ADMINISTRATION ON WHOSE BEHALF THEY ARE ACTING. FURTHER, THERE IS LACK OF UNIFORMITY IN THE REQUIRED PERIODS FOR SURVEYS. THE U.S. PROPOSES THAT THE SOLAS CONVENTION BE UPGRADED ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

A. INCLUDE A REQUIREMENT THAT WHEN SURVEYS ARE CONDUCTED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES, THE NAME OF THE SURVEYOR(S) AND THEIR AGENCY BE LISTED ON THE APPROPRIATE CERTIFICATE.

B. MODIFY ARTICLEIII(A) TO REQUIRE SUBMISSION OF A LIST OF THE NAMES OF SURVEYORS AND THEIR PARENT ORGANIZATION COMMISSIONED TO CONDUCT THE SURVEYS.

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C. DEFINE THE STATUS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES, E.G. CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES, PARTICULARLY INsofar AS DELINEATION OF THEIR AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY ARE CONCERNED WHEN THEY ARE ACTING ON BEHALF OF A GOVERNMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF CERTIFICATION OF THE VESSEL.

D. REVISE CHAPTER I TO INCLUDE MORE SPECIFICITY CONCERNING TANKER INSPECTIONS AND CERTIFICATION, INCLUDING SPECIFIC INTERVALS FOR SURVEYS, TYPES OF REQUIRED SURVEYS, ETC.

THE U.S. IS NOT FULLY ACQUAINTED WITH THE VARIOUS ADMINISTRATIONS' POLICIES REGARDING FREQUENCY AND EXTENT OF REQUIRED SURVEYS. APPENDED IS AN EXTRACT OF CURRENT U.S. REGULATIONS CONCERNING TANKER INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT ALL MEMBERS FORWARD INFORMATION ON THEIR POLICIES TO IMCO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. UPON RECEIPT, THE U.S. OFFERS TO ACT AS RAPPOREUR AND PREPARE A PAPER FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE PROPOSED JOINT MSC/MEPC MEETING (SEE FIRST PAPER ABOVE) LOOKING TOWARD INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZATION.

APPENDIX I

EXTRACT OF U.S. REGULATIONS FOR INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION OF U.S. TANKERS

A. INSPECTION FOR CERTIFICATION AND DRYDOCK INSPECTION EVERY TWO YEARS. ISSUE CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION, CARGO SHIP SAFETY EQUIPMENT CERTIFICATE AND CARGO SHIP SAFETY CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE, EACH VALID FOR 2-YEAR PERIOD.

B. MID-PERIOD REINSPECTION BETWEEN 10TH AND 14TH MONTH OF THE PERIOD FOR WHICH CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION IS VALID.

C. CARGO SHIP SAFETY CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE MAY BE
UNCLASSIFIED

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ISSUED BY AMERICAN BUREAU OF SHIPPING -- VALID FOR FIVE-

YEAR PERIOD.

D. RADIO AND RADIO TELEGRAPH INSTALLATIONS ARE INSPECTED
BY FCC EVERY YEAR. CARGO SHIP RADIOTELEGRAPH CERTIFICATES
AND CARGO SHIP RADIOTELEPHONY CERTIFICATES ARE ISSUED BY
FCC -- VALID FOR ONE YEAR.

UNQUOTE.

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APPROVED BY EB/TCA/MA:CTAYLORJR
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R 140109Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 082056

FOR R.K. BANK, USDEL, UNCTAD SHIPPING COMMITTEE

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 082056 ACTION BUENOS AIRES OTTAWA CAIRO
PARIS BONN ATHENS ROME TOKYO MONROVIA OSLO ISLAMABAD MADRID
MOSCOW LONDON BELGRADE 12 APR 77

QUOTE

UNCLAS STATE 082056

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, IMCO

SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATION INITIATIVE ON MARINE OIL
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EXTRACT OF U.S. REGULATIONS FOR INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION OF U.S. TANKERS

A. INSPECTION FOR CERTIFICATION AND DRYDOCK INSPECTION EVERY TWO YEARS. ISSUE CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION, CARGO SHIP SAFETY EQUIPMENT CERTIFICATE AND CARGO SHIP SAFETY CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE, EACH VALID FOR 2-YEAR PERIOD.

B. MID-PERIOD REINSPECTION BETWEEN 10TH AND 14TH MONTH OF THE PERIOD FOR WHICH CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION IS VALID.

C. CARGO SHIP SAFETY CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED BY AMERICAN BUREAU OF SHIPPING -- VALID FOR FIVE-YEAR PERIOD.

D. RADIO AND RADIO TELEGRAPH INSTALLATIONS ARE INSPECTED BY FCC EVERY YEAR. CARGO SHIP RADIOTELEGRAPH CERTIFICATES AND CARGO SHIP RADIOTELEPHONY CERTIFICATES ARE ISSUED BY FCC -- VALID FOR ONE YEAR.

UNQUOTE.

VANCE. UNQUOTE

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 22-Sep-1999 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, MEETING AGENDA, MARINE SAFETY, MARITIME MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE082056
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EB/TCA/MA:CTAYLOR,JR.:BST
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D770127-0168
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197704103/baaaevrl.tel
Line Count: 655
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 86253e9c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 12
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 66771
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2668622
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ADMINISTRATION INITIATIVE ON MARINE OIL POLLUTION
TAGS: SENV, EWWT, US, IMCO
To: BUENOS AIRES OTTAWA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/86253e9c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
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